Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 15, lines 7-15 with the following amended paragraph:

The resource servers can include secure and open servers. Referring to FIG. 7, a pair of SSO products 732A and 732B protect secure stock quotes server 506 and ~~Web~~ secure web search server 708~~310~~. SSO products 734A and 734B ~~732~~ respectively include ~~an interceptor~~ interceptors 740A and 740B, ~~an~~ authentication servers ~~server~~ 742A and 742B, and a policy servers ~~server~~ 744A and 744B. ~~For simplicity, these components are shown only for SSO product 732B. In addition, a pair of different SSO products 734A and 734B protect secure Web search server 708 and Web server 310. SSO products 734 include an interceptor 740B, an authentication server 742B, and a policy server 744B. For simplicity, these components are shown only for SSO product 734B.~~ Note that SSO products 732A and 732B ~~732 and 734~~ are different SSO products, for example, manufactured by different SSO vendors.

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, line 28-page 12, line 3, with the following amended paragraph:

In general, all resources secured by an SSO product trust the SSO product to request and process credentials from its users. Most SSO products attach to many kinds of user and group stores, such as LDAP (lightweight development access protocol), NT (new technology; Microsoft Windows™), or ODBC (Oracle™ or open database connectivity) databases. Administrators can choose to protect all or only a few of their Web servers with an SSO product. If the portal has users (such as business partners) who do not have accounts with the SSO product, these users must log in through a virtual directory that is not protected

by SSO. However, if all of the portal users are SSO users, then the administrator can enable SSO on every portal server.

Please replace the paragraph at page 17, line 12-page 18, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

The invention can be implemented in digital electronic circuitry, or in computer hardware, firmware, software, or in combinations of them. Apparatus of the invention can be implemented in a computer program product tangibly embodied in a machine-readable storage device for execution by a programmable processor; and method steps of the invention can be performed by a programmable processor executing a program of instructions to perform functions of the invention by operating on input data and generating output. The invention can be implemented advantageously in one or more computer programs that are executable on a programmable system including at least one programmable processor coupled to receive data and instructions from, and to transmit data and instructions to, a data storage system, at least one input device, and at least one output device. Each computer program can be implemented in a high-level procedural or object-oriented programming language, or in assembly or machine language if desired; and in any case, the language can be a compiled or interpreted language. Suitable processors include, by way of example, both general and special purpose microprocessors. Generally, a processor will receive instructions and data from a read-only memory and/or a random access memory. Generally, a computer will include one or more mass storage devices for storing data files; such devices include magnetic disks, such as internal hard disks and removable disks; magneto-optical disks; and optical disks. Storage devices suitable for tangibly embodying computer program instructions and data include all forms of non-volatile memory, including by way of example semiconductor memory devices, such as EPROM (erasable programmable read-only memory), EEPROM (electrically erasable

<u>programmable read-only memory)</u>, and flash memory devices; magnetic disks such as internal hard disks and removable disks; magneto-optical disks; and CD-ROM disks. Any of the foregoing can be supplemented by, or incorporated in, ASICs (application-specific integrated circuits).